

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The following list of claims replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) A digital camera comprising:

a photographic lens provided on a camera body of the digital camera, the photographic lens defining an optical axis that is stationary with respect to the camera body;

an image pick-up element on which an image formed by the photographic lens images, the image pick-up element comprising a sensitive surface that intersects the optical axis at an intersection point;

a tilting/swinging mechanism, provided in the camera body, that enables concurrent compound movement of the image pick-up element, relative to the optical axis, in at least two orthogonal planes such that the sensitive surface rotates about the intersection point, said tilting/swinging mechanism being configured to enable the concurrent compound movement of the image pick-up device by a single operation member.

2. (Canceled)

3. (Previously Presented) The digital camera according to claim 1, the tilting/swinging mechanism comprising:

a mount to which the image pick-up element is fixed, the mount comprising a convex surface; and

a base, fixed to the camera body, comprising a concave surface having a radius of curvature corresponding to a radius of curvature of the convex surface;

wherein the mount is mounted on the base such that the convex surface is slidable on the concave surface.

4. (Previously Presented) The digital camera according to claim 3, the tilting/swinging mechanism further comprising an operation member fixed to the mount, enabling movement of the mount relative to the base.

5. (Previously Presented) The digital camera according to claim 1, the tilting/swinging mechanism comprising:

a mount to which the image pick-up element is fixed, the mount comprising a convex spherical surface which defines a portion of a sphere having a center point coincident with the intersection point between the optical axis and the sensitive surface of the image pick-up element; and

a base, fixed to the camera body, comprising a concave spherical surface having a radius of curvature corresponding to a radius of curvature of the convex surface, the mount being mounted on the base such that the convex spherical surface is slidable on the concave spherical surface;

wherein a sliding movement of the convex spherical surface on the concave spherical surface causes the sensitive surface of the image pick-up element to rotate about the intersection point.

6. (Previously Presented) The digital camera according to claim 5, further comprising an operation member, fixed to the mount, that enables movement of the mount relative to the base.

7. (Currently Amended) A digital camera having a photographic lens and an image pick-up element, the photographic lens being attached to a camera body of the

digital camera such that an optical axis of the photographic lens is stationary with respect to the camera body, an image of an object to be photographed impinging on the image pick-up element through the photographic lens, the digital camera comprising:

a tilting/swinging mechanism, provided in the camera body, configured to at least one of tilt and swing a sensitive surface of the image pick-up element by concurrent compound movement, in at least two orthogonal planes, relative to the optical axis,

wherein the tilting/swinging mechanism comprises:

a movable member to which the image pick-up element is fixed; and

a stationary member to which the movable member is rotatably connected to enable the movable member to move relative to the stationary member to enable at least one of tilting and swinging the sensitive surface relative to a point at which the sensitive surface intersects the optical axis, said tilting/swinging mechanism being configured to enable the concurrent compound movement of the image pick-up device by a single operation member.

8. (Previously Presented) A digital camera comprising:

a photographing lens attached to a camera body, the photographing lens defining an optical axis that is stationary with respect to the camera body;

an image pick-up element comprising a sensitive surface that intersects the optical axis at an intersection point;

a rotatable mount having the image pick-up element attached to one side and defining a convex spherical surface on an opposite side, a radius of the convex spherical surface being centered on the intersection point; and

a base, fixed to the camera body, defining a concave spherical surface that slidably cooperates with the convex spherical surface of the rotatable mount;

wherein movement of the rotatable mount with respect to the base rotates the sensitive surface around the intersection point.

9. (Previously Presented) The digital camera according to claim 1, wherein the intersection point is stationary with respect to the camera body.

10. (Previously Presented) The digital camera according to claim 7, wherein the point at which the sensitive surface intersects the optical axis remains stationary with respect to the camera body.

11. (Previously Presented) The digital camera according to claim 8, wherein the intersection point is stationary with respect to the camera body.

12. (Previously Presented) The digital camera according to claim 1, wherein the concurrent compound movement of the image pick-up element enabled by the tilting/swinging mechanism comprises spherical movement.

13. (Previously Presented) The digital camera according to claim 7, wherein the concurrent compound movement of the image pick-up element enabled by the tilting/swinging mechanism comprises spherical movement.

14. (Previously Presented) The digital camera according to claim 1, wherein the concurrent compound movement of the image pick-up element enabled by the tilting/swinging mechanism comprises skewing movement relative to two orthogonal planes.

15. (Previously Presented) The digital camera according to claim 7, wherein the concurrent compound movement of the image pick-up element enabled by the

tilting/swinging mechanism comprises skewing movement relative to two orthogonal planes.

Claims 16-17. (Canceled)

18. (Previously Presented) The digital camera according to claim 1, said tilting/swinging mechanism comprising a convex spherical surface and a concave spherical surface mounted for relative slidable motion therebetween.

19. (Previously Presented) The digital camera according to claim 7, said tilting/swinging mechanism comprising a convex spherical surface and a concave spherical surface mounted for relative slidable motion therebetween.

20. (New) A digital camera comprising:

a photographic lens provided on a camera body of the digital camera, the photographic lens defining an optical axis that is stationary with respect to the camera body;

an image pick-up element on which an image formed by the photographic lens images, the image pick-up element comprising a sensitive surface that intersects the optical axis at an intersection point;

a tilting/swinging mechanism, provided in the camera body, that enables concurrent compound movement of the image pick-up element, relative to the optical axis, in at least two orthogonal planes such that the sensitive surface rotates about the intersection point, without changing a focus condition of the photographic lens.

21. (New) A digital camera comprising:

a photographic lens provided on a camera body of the digital camera, the photographic lens defining an optical axis that is stationary with respect to the camera body;

an image pick-up element on which an image formed by the photographic lens images, the image pick-up element comprising a sensitive surface that intersects the optical axis at an intersection point;

a tilting/swinging mechanism, provided in the camera body, that enables concurrent compound movement of the image pick-up element, relative to the optical axis, in at least two orthogonal planes such that the sensitive surface rotates about the intersection point by relative sliding motion between a first surface, secured to said image pick-up element and a second surface, secured to said camera body.